

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7441

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSTDC

AMEMBASSY TOKYO BY POUCH

USLO PEKING BY POUCH

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD; COMUSTDC FOR J-22

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, TW

SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER AGAIN EMPHASIZES SELF-RELIANCE

REF: TAIPEI 6471

1. OCTOBER 23 LOCAL PRESS CARRIED ACCOUNTS OF REMARKS REPORTEDLY MADE BY ROC DEFENSE MINISTER KAO KUEI-YUAN (7559/7608/0337) TO AN OCTOBER 22 CLOSED SESSION OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN. ACCORDING TO THE NEWS ARTICLES, KAO SAID THAT THE ROC HAS "ESTABLISHED A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR THE SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT OF OUR DEFENSE INDUSTRIES AND MADE REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS IN RECENT YEARS."

2. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE ROC IS CAPABLE OF NOT ONLY REPAIRING JET FIGHTERS AND ALL KINDS OF BATTLE-SHIPS BUT ALSO OF MANUFACTURING VARIOUS LIGHT AND HEAVY GUNS,
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ARMOURED VEHICLES, AND CHEMICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.

"RIGHT NOW WE ARE CONCENTRATING ON THE RESEARCH AND MANUFACTURE OF PRECISION EQUIPMENT," HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING.

3. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS, KAO ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE MAIN TARGET OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE EFFORT AT PRESENT IS TO STRENGTHEN THE WAR CAPABILITY OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH EMPHASIS PLACED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SCIENCE, RENOVATION OF EQUIPMENT, ENHANCEMENT OF MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND ELEVATION OF THE QUALITY OF THE TROOPS. "WE MUST CONSTANTLY STRENGTHEN OUR WAR PREPAREDNESS TO ASSURE THE SECURITY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, AND THE OFFSHORE ISLANDS OF KINMEN AND MATSU; WE WILL ALSO SEIZE THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY OUT OUR COUNTERATTACK TO RECOVER THE MAINLAND." HE REPORTEDLY STRESSED THE PRINCIPLE OF "30 PERCENT MILITARY ACTION AND 70 PERCENT POLITICAL WARFARE" IN CARRYING OUT THE RECOVERY OF THE MAINLAND.

4. DISCUSSING THE FALL OF INDOCHINA, KAO REPORTEDLY SAID "WE ARE FULLY AWARE THAT WE SHOULD NOT RELY ON INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND TREATIES. ON THE CONTRARY, WE SHOULD RELY ON OURSELVES. TO STEP UP OUR OWN NATIONAL DEFENSE CAPABILITY IS THE BEST WAY TO GUARANTEE OUR SECURITY....THE MORALE OF THE ARMED FORCES IS HIGH AND OUR PEOPLE ARE UNITED AS ONE; THESE ARE GUARANTEES OF OUR FINAL VICTORY."

5. COMMENT: KAO'S REPORTED REMARKS REFLECT CURRENT GROC PUBLIC EMPHASIS ON MILITARY SELF-RELIANCE, ONE ASPECT OF THE CONDITIONING PROCESS.
UNGER

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